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RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0094
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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/30/2016
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#) [OAS](#) [GY](#)
SUBJECT: GUYANA ELECTION STATUS REPORT: AUGUST 30 AT 15:00
HOURS

REF: A. GEORGETOWN 855
[1](#)B. GEORGETOWN 854
[1](#)C. GEORGETOWN 850

Classified By: AMBASSADOR DAVID M. ROBINSON FOR REASON 1.4(d)

[1](#)1. (C) SUMMARY: Georgetown continues to remain quiet two days after the August 28 national and regional elections, but things may change as the official results are announced. Although both international and local observers agree that the vote went technically well, conflicting reports concerning election results are likely to cause problems. There are indications suggesting that the PNC is making preparations to mobilize its members and begin street protests in the near future. In response, the international donors and OAS are trying to arrange a meeting with PNC leader Robert Corbin to address security fears and urge the party to remain peaceful.

DONORS AND OAS SUPPORT GECOM RESULTS

[1](#)2. (C) Donor nations and four observer missions agree that GECOM's handling of the elections was technically a success. Reports from both international and national observers show that proper procedures were followed at polling places and that the election process proceeded with only a few, minor glitches. These reports are in line with OAS A/SYG Ramdin's August 29 statement indicating that the election took place in a calm, professional, and orderly manner.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS SHOW PPP WIN AND RETAIN MAJORITY

[1](#)3. (C) Both GECOM's preliminary and official count and the local Election Assistance Bureau's (EAB) unofficial tabulations show that the PPP party will win the election and retain its majority control over the Parliament. With six out of the 10 regions reporting, EAB results show the PPP winning 51%, the PNC winning 33% and the AFC finishing a distant third at 8%. Having approximately 75% of the polling places accounted for, GECOM results show the PPP at 54%, PNC at 34%, and the AFC at 8%. The result of the OAS quick count after the polls closed showed similar findings. Analysis of the results also suggests that Guyana continues to vote almost entirely based upon racial lines. Predominantly

Indo-Guyanese areas voted overwhelmingly PPP, while
Afro-Guyanese areas voted overwhelmingly for the PNC.

WAITING FOR THE OTHER SHOE TO DROP

¶4. (C) As the nation awaits the final results all remains peaceful in Guyana. There are signs, however, that the calm may not last. While preliminary vote counts show that the PPP has won the election and will likely retain its majority control over the Parliament, the PNC leader Corbin yesterday announced to its members that the PNC will be victorious, thus creating the framework for dissention when the official GECOM results show otherwise. The PNC may use a leaked AFC exit poll to claim victory. The AFC poll shows AFC 21%, PPP 33% and PNC 36% and is not believed to be credible by any who have seen it. AFC leaders have not explained the methodology under which the poll was conducted. Both the OAS and donors will attempt to contact AFC leaders to discuss the exit poll and explain to them why it is not valid. We have received information suggesting that the PNC has begun mobilizing its members, possibly in order to organize street protests.

DONORS TRYING TO MEET WITH CORBIN

¶5. (C) PNC leader Corbin is deliberately avoiding donor/OAS requests to meet. A high-level PNC official says that he has been in back-to-back meetings with party activists and is also drafting a speech for tonight.

Robinson